



# CITY OF CHICOPEE

## Department of Public Work

### PARKS DIVISION

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RECREATION OFFICE 413-594-3481 413-594-3486 (fax.)

Carolyn Porter  
Parks Superintendent

Richard Maciolek  
Assistant Superintendent

#### Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 27, 2015

- A. **Call meeting to order:** 7:50pm Motion to begin by Elizabeth Montemagni, seconded by William Courchesne. Approved

**Attendance:** Chair Doug Girouard arrived at 9:00pm. Commissioners present included Nancy Fenton, Elizabeth Montemagni, William Courchesne and Gary Ziemba. Supt Carolyn Porter

**Chair elected:** Motion to appoint Gary Ziemba interim Chair was made by Elizabeth Montemagni and seconded by William Courchesne. Approved

- B. Minutes of last meeting: Not available, to be reviewed at next meeting

C. **Communications:**

1. Request by Chicopee National Night Out Event to be held at Sarah Jane Sherman Park August 3, 5 – 9 pm. Motion to approve by Elizabeth Montemagni, seconded by William Courchesne. Approved
2. Barry School requested use of park and spray pad at Garrity Grove June 18 & 19 for field days. Motion to approve by William Courchesne, seconded by Elizabeth Montemagni. Approved
3. High School Graduation on Szot Stadium Field Thursday June 4, 2015 at 8:30am for rehearsal and 5:30pm for event. Motion to approve by Elizabeth Montemagni, seconded by William Courchesne. Approved
4. Use of Bowie Field of Dreams by Hampden Charter School for High School Varsity Soccer starting August 27 – October 30 3:30 – 5:30pm. They provide their own goals. Motion to approve with time being restricted to end at 5pm for the same fee as last year by William Courchesne, seconded by Elizabeth Montemagni. Approved
5. Inquiry 5/18/2015 by Steve La Rochelle regarding upgrades to Rivers 90' diamond for Chicopee Comp varsity baseball. Commission discussed other communities that have 2 High Schools and the difference in the quality of the fields.( Holyoke: MacKenzie Stadium vs Anniversary Field or Mitchelle). Also considered the role that boosters have played in generating the resources to improve fields. Athletic Director was given permission by the Commission previously to make improvements to the area around the diamond including landscaping, and adding a flag pole. High School Athletic Director is aware that both High School team are welcome to play at Szot for their home fields.
6. Solenis Safety Day June 8, 2015 request to use Rivers Park pavilion for 25 people. Motion to approve with regular fees to apply by Elizabeth Montemagni, seconded by William Courchesne. Approved

D. **Recreation Report**

1. Adult leagues: Softball leagues: men 16 teams, women 8 teams and 11 co-ed teams.
2. Adult Programs: Fitness, Yoga on going till end of June
3. Youth Sport Leagues/Teams & Youth Rec Leagues – on going till mid June
4. Youth Programs: 4 CPR/First aid classes scheduled since January, 2 Lifeguard training programs and 2 Babysitting courses
5. Aquatics Programs: Swim Lessons for the summer will be held at Chicopee High School
6. New programs – water color beginners class for the summer, women's basketball summer league to be held at Fairview basketball court, exploring a drama class and Dan Kane Program

7. Kinder Korner ends June 12 / No Lil Buccaneers program will be offered this summer is the instructor is retiring.
8. Summer Staff applications still being received for lifeguards and playground attendants.
9. Summer: OPEE Summer Program final interviews, and new hires list.
10. Youth Sport Camps – enrollment low
11. Wal-Mart Community Grant application submitted in February in hopes of getting funds for the community Easter egg hunt. Application process very elaborate and no grant for second year in a row.
12. Relay for Life – Successful May 8 – 9
13. Movie Night planning begins – looking at 5 nights and community sponsors.

**E. Maintenance Report**

1. Tasks Accomplished – some diamonds prepared – grass removed, base paths cut out, others still to be done. Comfort station repairs, Pool assessment, Leaf pick up, painting soccer fields and diamond foul lines, Preparations for Memorial Day in cemeteries, fountains operational
2. Parks Labor Force: new hires expected in: Seasonal, Pesticide lic applicator, certified pool operator. 5 openings remain
3. Roca: Contract completed for FY 2015. HUGE asset to Parks Dept this past year.

**F. Old Business:**

1. Wisniewski Park-Our Common Backyards Grant update. Final touches are being made to the site.
2. Update Szot Phase 2 & phase 3 – Tom Scarlata, Architect Agreement,. Szot request for Proposals for accessibility component of project was available May 26 and is due back June 10. Plans for press box alternative with assistance from IT, and CMG. Looking at trailer. AAB hearing 7/13/15
3. Update Pool repairs – AECOM made a presentation to the City Council 5/21/15
4. Open Space Plan – update: Accepted by State. Commission would like to express appreciation to the Planning Department and the leadership of Lee Pouliot with the support of the Mayor in hiring consultants to get this done.
5. InspireWorks summer enrichment program – insufficient enrollment at this time to operate
6. Chicopee Community Garden Council – MOU & Harvard Pilgrim Foundation Grant \$5,000 and an additional \$1,000 grant as well.
7. Budget FY 2016 meeting with the Mayor May 13, 2015. Next steps, await his recommendations.
8. Use of Chicopee Falls Library Branch for community resource center including recreation services and social services. Looking for community partners.
9. Other Old Business: Lining River Parking lot – second request. Suggested to ask DPW Highway for assistance.

**G. New Business:**

1. Quotes for pool chemicals received – Teddy Bear will be our supplier for the 2015 summer season
2. July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks – June 27. Vendor awarded to Astro Pyrotechnic. Concession Vendors– Rich will be handling
3. Summer Plans as alternatives to outdoor pools: expansion of pool hours indoors and out at existing facilities; Rivers, Chicopee HS & Comp., snow cone machines, adding misting elements, water slide, performers, increased park attendant hours. Exploring an above ground pool option, bussing to the State Park.
4. Sani-Can quotes received. Provider Royal Flush. Sani-cans are now in place at 8 sites
5. Other new business. Explore the possibility of hosting MIAA games on newly skinned softball diamond.
6. When will youth sport organizations receive money from Park Clean up? Rich will follow up.

H. **Meeting adjourned:** Motion to adjourn by Liz Montemagni, seconded by William Courchesne.  
Approved

I. Next Meeting: \_\_\_\_\_ June 23, 2015 \_\_\_\_\_

 6/29/15